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COOS BAY COUNTRY VISITED BY EDITORS

WONDERFUL RESOURCES

Marshfield and North Bend Hustling and Busy Little Cities

We had so often heard of the famous Coos country and the hospitality of its residents, that there has always been a desire on our part to visit this garden spot of Oregon, so when the Oregon Editorial association chose North Bend as its next meeting place, we resolved to visit Coos Bay at that time and we did, and moreover, we are glad we went. A trip through that fertile country was education itself and to meet the hospitable people of Coos Bay is a pleasure and a privilege.

So many Columbia county people are heard of Coos Bay and have never seen it, that we are going to try, or rather try to give a description of the country. In the first place let us state that the Coos Bay country is located in the coast region of southwestern Oregon and comprises Staslaw Bay, the Umpqua river basin, Coos Bay and Coquille River districts.

A few years ago, this district, was to a certain extent, isolated from the rest of Oregon on account of lack of transportation, but now since the Southern Pacific has built a railroad from Eugene to Marshfield, the country has become a near neighbor to the rest of Oregon.

Leaving Eugene the road runs through a peaceful and prosperous farming country until Elrus, a station 16 miles from Eugene is reached. There the road begins to go up grade and continues until the Coast range is reached. Instead of trying to go over the summit the railroad pierces the mountains and the train goes through the Nott tunnel, which is nearly a mile in length and saves a long climb over the summit. After leaving the tunnel, the train follows the Staslaw river and crosses this stream many times before Mapleton the first town of importance is reached. The scenery along the line is wonderful; the high hills heavily timbered and the swift rushing river, with now and then a little valley patch under cultivation, afford a variety of scenery unsurpassed.

Mapleton is at the head of navigation on the Staslaw and is an important trading point with several hundred inhabitants. Eleven miles further west, Cushman is reached. This station is at the head of Staslaw Bay and four miles from Florence, which is the only seaport Lane county boasts. Florence has 400 inhabitants and the fishing and lumbering are the principal occupations. The large saw mill of the Porter Bros., is shut down but might soon resume operations, which will give added life to the little town.

Leaving Cushman the road runs for 20 miles along the shores of several lakes and then Reedsport is reached. This little town is in Douglas county and on the Umpqua river. Some years ago a promoter started a boom and many lots were bought and business started. The boom fell through, but after the coming of the railroad, some activity was resumed. The city now has several stores, hotel, cannery factory and two sawmills and seems prosperous.

Four miles down the Umpqua is Gardiner which is quite a little town. It was founded October 1st, 1850 when the cargo of the Bostonian, wrecked on the bar, was landed on the site of what is now Gardiner. The town is on the north bank of Umpqua river not far from Winchester Bay. It has a good hotel, paved streets and other civic improvements and is known as the "spotless town" on account of the pride of its citizens in keeping it immaculate in appearance.

Scottsburg is 20 miles up the Umpqua and according to records furnished by Geo. H. Himes, state historian, who gave an early history of that section of the country at the convention, was at one time the metropolis of Oregon. This was in 1850 to 1855 when the gold rush was on and supplies coming from California by vessel were brought into the Umpqua and on up to Scottsburg. From there

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NORTH BEND--AN IMPORTANT CITY ON COOS BAY

COUNTY COURT LETS ROAD CONTRACT

Kappler Road to be Improved--Contract Awarded Tarrill

At their session last week the county court let a contract to G. L. Tarrill & Son for the improvement of a certain portion of the Kappler road between the Redmen's hall at Yankton and the Kappler crossing. Tarrill's bid was \$2585 which was near the engineer's estimate and the court awarded him the bid.

The bid of S. L. Flannigan for grubbing and clearing the Timmony road was rejected. Flannigan's bid was \$2200 which was considerable more than the engineer's estimate and the court decided to let Road Supervisor Flippin do the work.

In this issue of the Mist, b'ids are called for road work in the Nehalem. The court is going to do all the road work possible while the good weather continues.

MILL AT RAINIER BURNED TO GROUND

Plant of Columbia River Door Company Entirely Destroyed

Fire of supposed incendiary origin destroyed the entire plant of the Columbia River Door Company at Rainier late Wednesday night. The loss including stock on hand, is in the neighborhood of \$400,000 which is partly covered by insurance.

Mr. Dalton, the watchmaker at Von Gray's jewelry store, was an eye witness and stated to the Mist that when the fire alarm sounded at about 10:15 o'clock, he looked in the direction of the mill and could see only a small blaze. In a few moments, however, the dry kilns were a mass of flames and before the fire department could reach the scene, the fire was beyond control and rapidly spread to the mill and box factory. The residence of Wm. Plue, manager of the company and also the residence of the superintendent which were located just across the railroad track from the mill, were destroyed together with their contents.

Mr. Plue was in Portland when the fire started, having left Rainier only a few hours before. When he reached Portland and learned of the fire he returned via automobile to Rainier.

For a time, the sparks and cinders threatened to start other fires in Rainier but volunteer firemen were on the lookout and prevented further damage.

The burning of the mill, is a severe blow to the commercial life of Rainier. The company employed 200 men and the loss of the pay-roll will be keenly felt. It is not known whether or not the mill will be rebuilt.

Harold Decker writes to his parents from France that he has been recommended for corporal and hopes to soon receive the appointment. In speaking of France he said "France is certainly a beautiful place now. All the fields and trees are green and the flowers in bloom and the weather is beautiful." Harold is in the hospital division of the army. He enlisted soon after war was declared and has been in France for sometime.

BENNETT THOMPSON CAPTURED MONDAY

WAS NEAR RAINIER

Deputy James Jesse Takes Escaped Convict Into Custody

Bennett Thompson, escaped convict and convicted murderer was captured near Rainier Monday afternoon about one o'clock by Deputy Marshal James Jesse of Rainier. Thompson with another convict, escaped from the state penitentiary about ten days ago, and officers throughout the state had been on the lookout for him.

Saturday afternoon the word came to Sheriff Stanwood that a man answering Thompson's description had been seen in the Houlton neighborhood Friday afternoon and had asked several boys about "Shorty" Long and other Houlton residents. The sheriff, after investigating the matter, decided that Thompson was the man who had been seen and phoned to Warden Murphy at Salem. The warden, accompanied by several deputies came down and a search was made, but the escaped convict could not be found.

Stanwood's guess as to what Thompson would do, was just about correct, and he had guards posted at several places in Houlton and also at the overhead bridge at Columbia City. Thompson stayed in the woods between the railroad bridge over Milton creek and the Portland road Friday night and Saturday and getting up at three o'clock in the morning, started for Rainier. Thinking that the bridge would be guarded, he left the road and went into the brush near Columbia beach. He stayed there Sunday and left early Monday morning. The sheriff had notified people along the highway to be on the lookout and at noon Monday a call came from Goble stating that a man answering Thompson's description had been seen and was headed down the highway towards Rainier. The sheriff was out of the office when the call came, but Deputy LaBare phoned to Jesse in Rainier to come up the highway and arrest or detain any suspicious character. About one-half mile just this side of Rainier, is a spring just to the side of the highway and Thompson, leaving the road, went to the spring for a drink. About this time, Marshal Jesse came along and when Thompson looked up, he was looking down the barrels of two big smoke guns" as he stated. There was nothing else left to do except to surrender and the handcuffs were slipped on him. Deputy LaBare and Marshal Robinson were soon on the scene and brought Thompson to St. Helens and Warden Murphy came down from Portland and took the convict back to Salem.

Thompson stated his idea was to get down to Rainier, appropriate a boat or skiff and go over to the Washington side of the river. He intended catching a freight train and soon make his way into Canada where he expected to enlist in the Canadian army. He told Jesse and Stanwood if he had followed the advice he gave his friend who escaped at the same time he did, which was to keep to the

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CHAUTAUQUA STARTS TUESDAY AFTERNOON

Final Arrangements Made for Staging Big Attraction

Tuesday afternoon, the Radcliffe chautauqua people will open their three days entertainment in St. Helens. The big tent with a seating capacity of 600 will be here Monday and Clyde Sutherland, chairman of the tent committee will at once see that it is put up, electric lights installed and other necessary work done. It is planned to have the tent set up in the school house play grounds which is close to the main part of the city and will be convenient for all.

The first number on the program is a concert by the Neapolitan Male Quartette, which will be followed by a lecture "The Call of Democracy" by Colonel C. A. Gearhart. The program for the night is for a concert by the quartette and Col. Gearhart will deliver his famous lecture "Wake Up, America."

The programs for the following two days are lectures and concerts and will undoubtedly be very attractive and interesting.

The committee for the sale of tickets have met with fairly good success, but in order to insure the financial success of the chautauqua more tickets must be sold. These tickets which cost only \$2.00 provide admission to all the entertainments. If one prefers to buy a single admission ticket instead of a season ticket, the price will be 50 cents for adults and 25 cents for children.

The committee who guaranteed the chautauqua people \$550 for their three days' entertainment are in hopes that the attendance will be sufficiently large so that the guarantee can be met without having to make up any deficit by private subscription.

CITY COUNCIL HAS QUIET SESSION

Faulty Sidewalks Occupy Attention of City Dads

The regular session of the city council Monday night was one of peace and harmony. No fire truck men or delegations complaining as to the city's needs, etc., were there to disturb the serenity of the councilmen or mayor, so the session was a harmonious one.

The matter of the faulty and dangerous sidewalks was brought up and discussed. The marshal was instructed to make repairs on the worst places and the matter of enforcing the ordinance so that property owners must keep the sidewalks in good condition, was referred to the city attorney.

Applications to conduct hotels were received from Mrs. E. McQueen and P. Dahl and licenses were ordered granted.

A warrant for \$420, being semi-annual interest on the city's debt, was drawn.

Nothing further of interest occurred and the council adjourned.

The Eastern Star will give a reception tomorrow night at the Masonic hall in honor of Prof. and Mrs. L. L. Baker, who soon leave for their new home in Portland, where Mr. Baker has accepted a position as superintendent of one of the Rose City schools.

BRITISH WARSHIPS READY FOR FIGHT

Great Fleet of Vessels Anxious for Fight With Germans

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Off to the north of London is a part of the British fleet, a minor part, we are told. Light cruisers, they are in name--great masses of steel, built and manned for fighting in reality.

There they lie at anchor, like dogs chained in restraint, ready to be let loose at a moment's notice. One wonders that there ever was so much floating steel and power and so many guns in the world. One does not wonder that the German navy stays tied in Kiel, afraid to come out, and one breathes thanks for America that the British navy not only stands as a protection for Britain's shores against an invader that now knows no law or rule of decent warfare, but also to bombard any city which it can bring within range of its guns.

Count the cruisers, one does. There is an understanding, however, that figures shall not be published, but let every American breathe easier for that part of the navy, and let each of us, when inclined to think that we are placing Great Britain under certain obligations to us in sending troops over to help in the fight, remember that we are under lasting obligations to Great Britain for the protection she has afforded us with her fleet, ever on the watch in the North Sea.

But the light cruiser squadron is not all, by any means. Farther to the north is reached another and a greater part of the North Sea fleet. Battleships, they are. Veterans of the Jutland and the Dardanelles are there. Luncheon was served on one that came out of the Jutland fight, with wounds, but it was not beyond repair. Powerful and great and new with others, the pride of the British navy is there--the greatest battleship afloat.

To the left the floating fighters are seen, in great numbers and tonnage beyond comprehension. To the right are more battleships. Farther and farther, and still beyond in the mist are seen the forms of more hulls, more stacks, more protectors of our shores and theirs.

"If the Germans would only stay and fight; if they only wouldn't run," said Durobeck, veteran admiral of the Dardanelles, modest of mien, as he put to sea with his squadron to take up the watch for his land and ours.

Boys in the Trenches

A company of British infantry that I saw marching away to the trenches was made up of boys--just turning 19 years. England takes in the boys at 18, trains them a year and then sends them to the front. With the coming of the American troops there was an agitation in England to send the 18-year-old boys to the trenches with six months' training instead of waiting a full year.

Three companies seen marching along the Strand for the front, were made up of men from 35 to 40 years old. All over England one notices the absence of young men, of men under 41 and boys over 18. They are either at the front or in training.

It seemed to me that America would have to send at least 10,000,000 to the front before our manhood would be combed as fine as it is combed in England.

Playing Fair with Food

When we in America deny ourselves that our allies may have, we can be sure that the sacrifice is appreciated and that England in no way takes advantage of what we do.

Very strict laws have been passed for conserving food over there and they are enforced rigidly.

The object of the British government is so to distribute the food made available that rich and poor shall be served alike. To this end there are laws against hoarding, against purchasing more than government allowance, and, to prevent profiteering,

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SOLDIERS SATURDAY CORNFOT SUNDAY

TWO GAMES THIS WEEK

St. Helens Fans to Witness Two Big Ball Games

The baseball fans of St. Helens who object to Sunday baseball will have an opportunity to witness a big game Saturday afternoon when the crack soldier team from Camp Lewis will play the McCormick team of the Shipbuilder's league on the local grounds. The game will be called at 2:30 o'clock. The Camp Lewis team has a strong lineup and is sure to make it interesting for the local boys. Some of the soldier players were in the league before going to Camp Lewis and they have quite an array of the diamond talent. L. Harstad, a brother of the big St. Helens artist, plays shortstop for the soldiers and the fans are wondering if he will do the big brother act when the younger Harstad comes to the plate.

The other big game scheduled is between Cornfoot and McCormick and the game will begin at 2:30 Sunday afternoon. The Cornfoots now occupy second place in the league standing and look with envious eyes on the fat percentage of the McCormick team and will make a determined effort to pull the leaders down a peg. Mensor is confident that his team will repeat and send back Cornfoot with the small end of the score. The game is an important one for if McCormick wins the lead of the league is practically clinched, and if Cornfoot wins they will have a chance to beat St. Helens out in the final games and gain the league leadership. Both teams are in excellent condition and a good game can be expected.

Sunday's game with Peninsula, while one sided was interesting. The score was 5 to 1 in favor of McCormick and Harstad had the visiting batters eating out of his hand all the time. Winning the game established for St. Helens the good record of 10 straight wins.

BIG SHIPMENT BY JUNIOR RED CROSS

Little Ones Do Much Work and Make Many Articles

The first shipment of articles made by the Junior Red Cross has been sent to Portland and will soon be on the way to a foreign country. The shipment contained the following articles: 27 holders; 4 dozen fun books; 10 wash cloths, knitted; 3 dozen dish towels; 6 dresses; 5 dozen diapers; 1 cap; 1/2 dozen pair booties; 4 squares; 10 blankets; 1 petticoat; 2 quilts; 5 sweaters; 1 1/2 dozen napkins; 13 sundry bags; 8 dozen bundles gun wipes; 6 dozen knitted squares; 5 dozen gun wipes; 6 wash cloths, knitted; 6 fabric wash cloths.

Mrs. Harold Broughton, who is in charge of the Junior Red Cross here is much pleased with what the little ones have accomplished. The work was started before school was out and has continued during vacation. Those who saw the articles before they were shipped, said the work on them was remarkably good for the little ones to do. The children just now, are having a vacation, but the work will be resumed soon.

REALIZE IMPORTANCE OF PITTSBURG ROAD

Sherman Miles and Ham McCormick made a trip over the Pittsburg-St. Helens road last week and both returned to St. Helens converted to the fact that the road is THE IMPORTANT ROAD in the county and should be built without any delay. Mr. Miles was surprised at the wonderful Nehalem country and is now one of the most enthusiastic boosters for the road which will connect that section with St. Helens, the principal city of the county and the county's best market.

After transacting their business in Vernonia, a drive was made to the lower valley and on to Astoria and the return trip via the lower Highway.